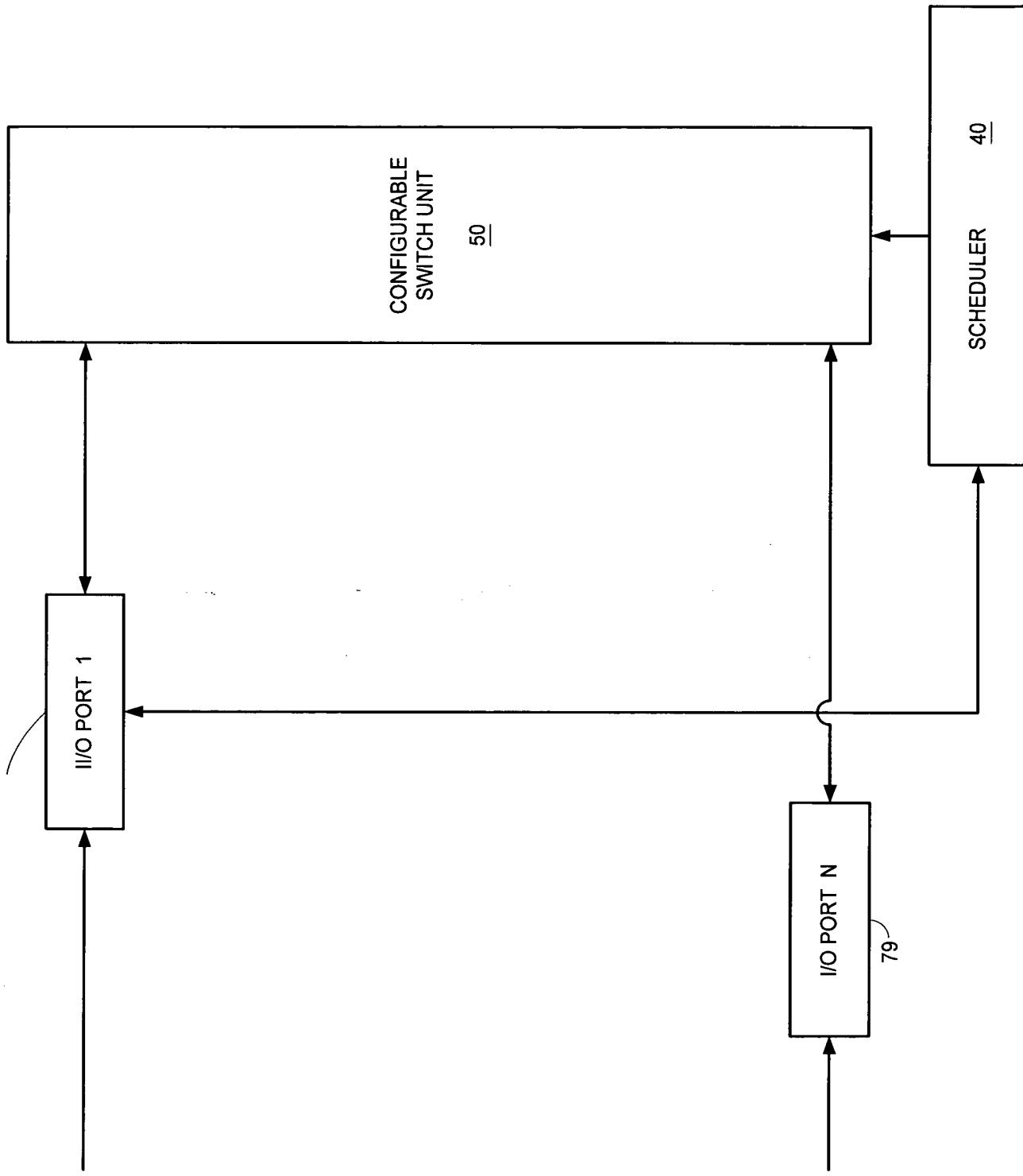
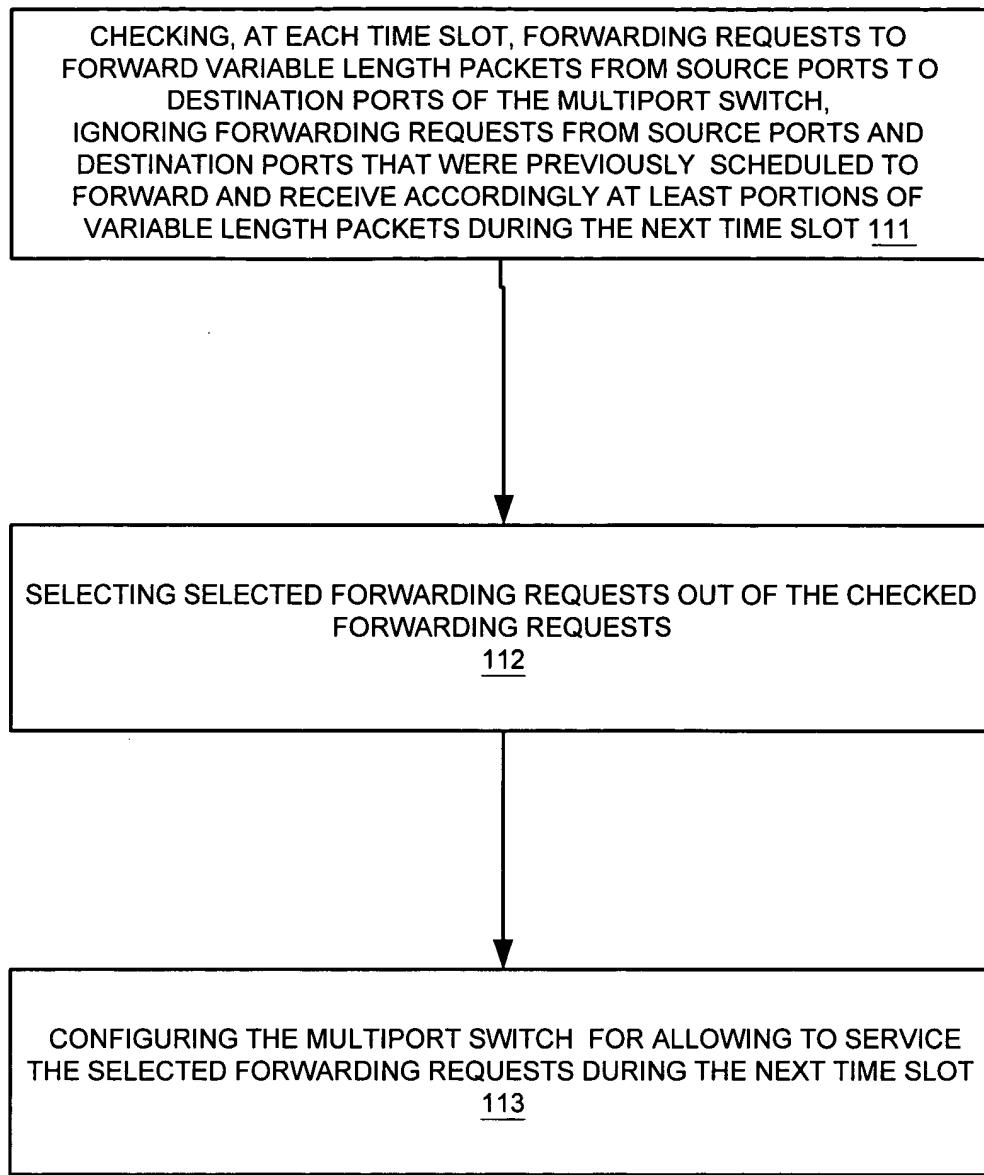


FIG. 1

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110

FIG. 3

PERIODICALLY CHECKING CONNECTION REQUESTS, EACH CONNECTION REQUEST REQUESTING TO COUPLE A DESTINATION PORT TO A SOURCE PORT FOR FORWARDING A VARIABLE LENGTH PACKET FROM THE SOURCE PORT TO THE DESTINATION PORT, IGNORING CONNECTION REQUESTS FROM SOURCE PORTS AND DESTINATION PORTS THAT ARE COUPLED DURING THE CURRENT TIME SLOT FOR FORWARDING VARIABLE LENGTH PACKETS THAT ARE SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE DURING THE NEXT TIME SLOT

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PROCESSING THE CHECKED CONNECTION REQUESTS TO DETERMINE THE CONNECTIVITY OF THE CROSSBAR SWITCH DURING THE NEXT TIME SLOT

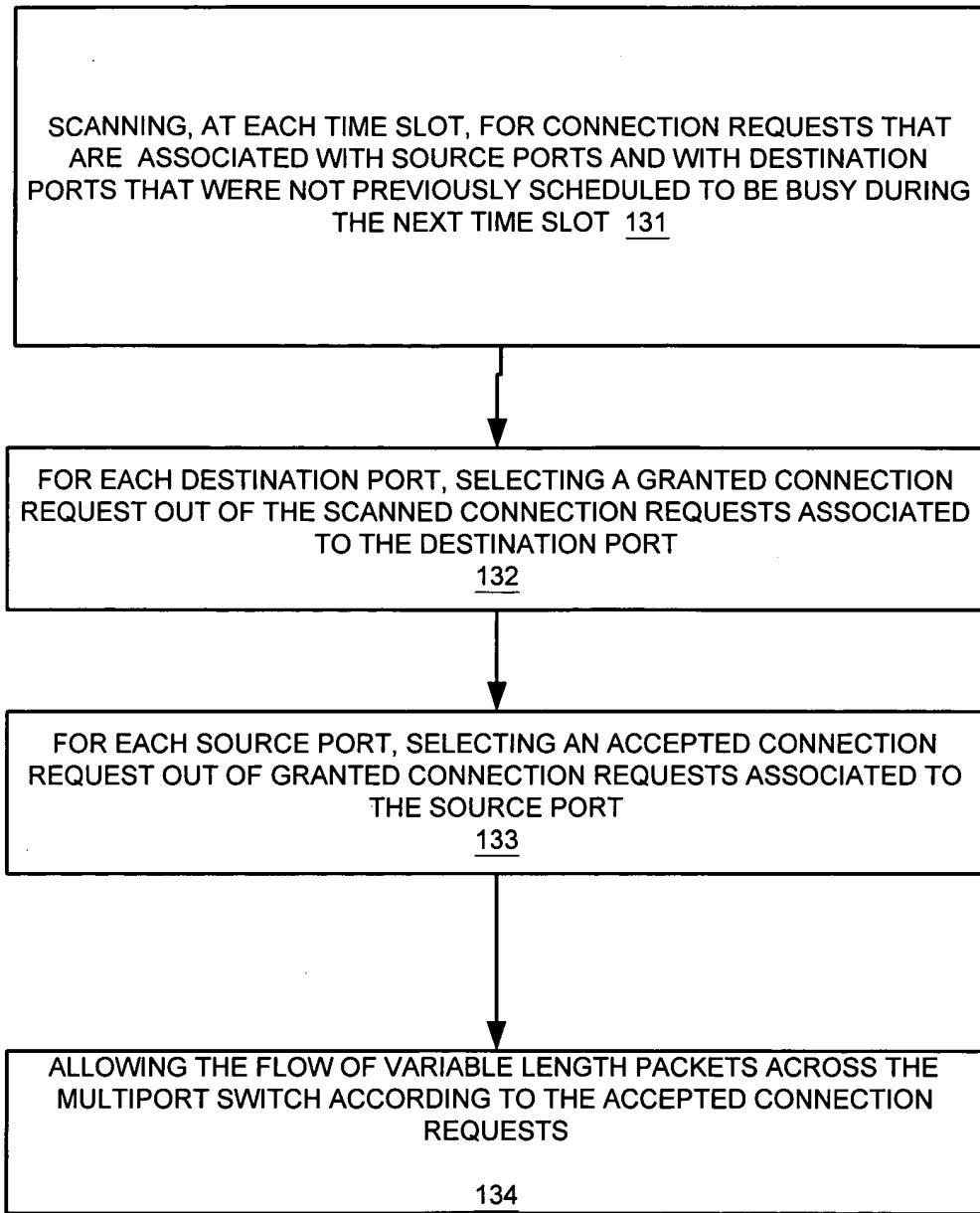
122

PROVIDING CONTROL SIGNALS TO THE CROSSBAR SWITCH IN VIEW OF THE DETERMINATION

123

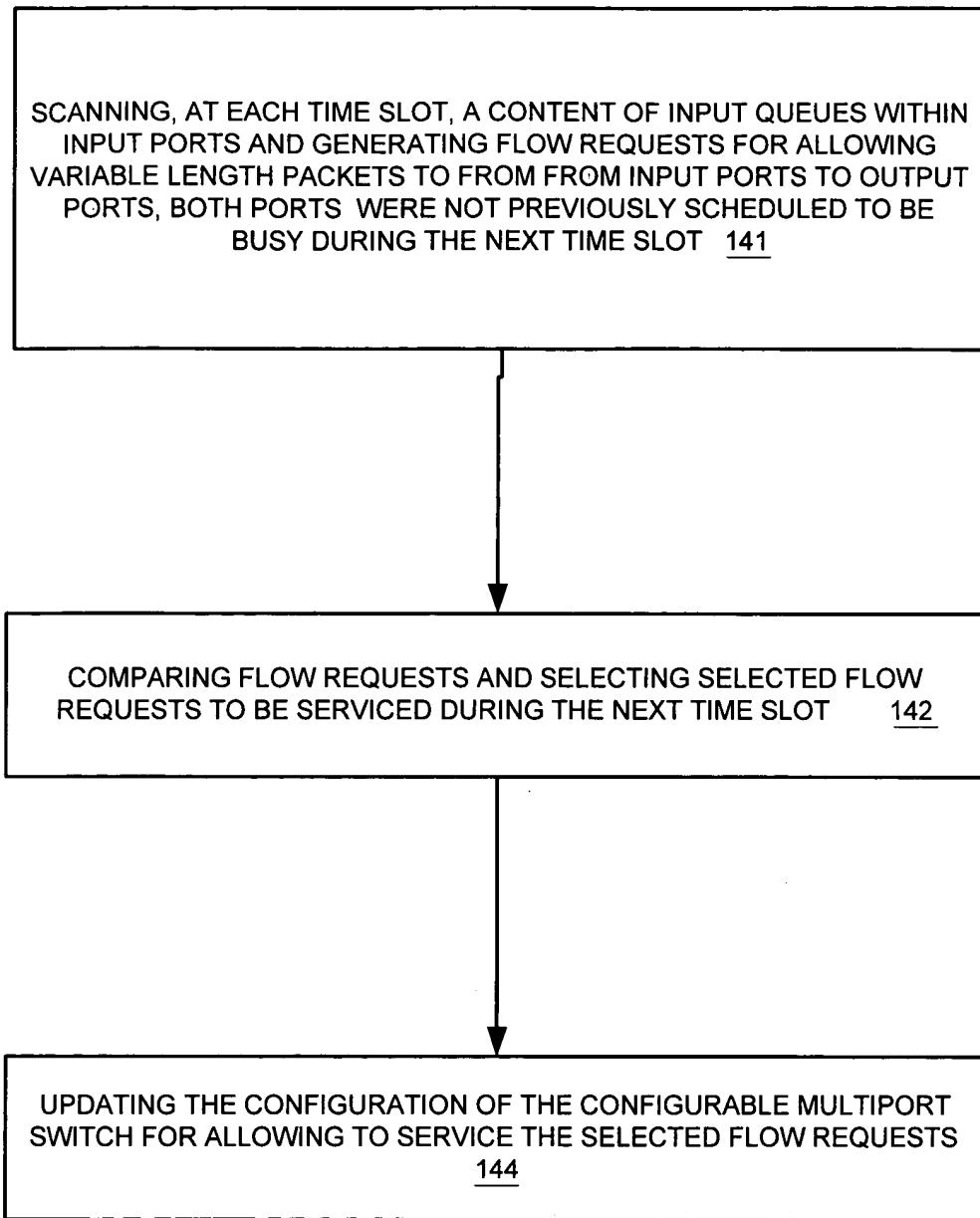
120

FIG. 4



130

**FIG. 5**



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FIG. 6